

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 03373 020815Z

13

ACTION STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 L-03 RSR-01

RSC-01 /063 W

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R 011615Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 871

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3373

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD EEC GATT US

SUBJECT: ARTICLE 24:6 NEGOTIATIONS

REF STATE 148243

1. MINECON DIRECTOR VAN WIJK, WHO WAS PRESENT AT 24:6 DISCUSSIONS IN BOTH EC COUNCIL AND WORKING GROUP, TELLS US CONFIDENTIALLY THAT ALL COUNTRIES BUT FRANCE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR CONCESSIONS ON 30 ITEMS. IF FRANCE OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY SHOULD INTERPOSE FORMAL RESERVATIONS, HOWEVER, DUTCH FEEL THEY WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PUT FORTH THEIR OWN RESERVATIONS. IN VAN WIJK'S VIEW THIS WOULD OPEN THE GATES AND IN EFFECT KILL THE NEGOTIATIONS. VAN WIJK THEREFORE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT WE PUT HEAVY PRESSURE ON FRANCE TO ACCEPT COMMISSION PACKAGE WITHOUT CHANGE.

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PAGE 02 THE HA 03373 020815Z

2. VAN WIJK SAID THAT THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY SOME ITEMS AMONG 30

THAT ARE MORE SENSITIVE THAN OTHERS FOR DUTCH BUT HE DECLINED TO IDENTIFY THEM. HE PROFESSED CONCERN THAT USDEL IN ANY FUTURE CONFRONTATION MIGHT USE THIS KIND OF INFORMATION FROM CAPITALS AGAINST EC SPOKESMEN AS HAPPENED (ACCORDING TO VAN WIJK) ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION AT PREPCOM TALKS IN GENEVA.

3. VAN WIJK ADDED THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED A CABLE FROM BRUSSELS TO EFFECT THAT COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS ON 24:6 WILL BE UNDERTAKEN AT PERMREP LEVEL IN MEETINGS ON SEPT. 4 AND SEPT. 18. VAN WIJK WAS VISIBLY DISTURBED ABOUT THIS DEVELOPMENT WHICH HE FEELS IS IN VIOLATION OF TREATY AND A SLUR ON ARTICLE 113 COMMITTEE. HE WAS UNCLEAR ABOUT IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. OBJECTIVES.
TANGUY

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NNN

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